

Dover, May 1, 2025

The new cross-channel service: SailLink offers an eco-adventurous connection to France

A unique way to cross the Channel

After a very encouraging launch phase, SailLink, the cross-Channel sailing service between Dover and Boulogne-sur-Mer, is charting a new course for British travellers seeking connection, simplicity and a more human travel experience. Since its opening in April, the service has already welcomed cyclists, hikers, families and solo travellers, all drawn to the idea of crossing to France not just differently, but better. Aboard their 17-metre sailing catamaran, up to 12 guests enjoy a four-hour crossing, with active participation in sailing being optional. The cooperation with UK and French border authorities has provided for a seamless procedure on both sides. As a sailing passenger transport service SailLink is truly one-of-a-kind as well as the first scheduled international service operating outside of an airport, ferry terminal or Eurostar station.

Ticket sales picking up for the summer

The summer schedule was not due to be released until the end of May following further initial crossings, but was brought forward due to customer demand. It is therefore shaping up to be a popular addition to coastal tourism between Kent and the Côte d'Opale. Local French media have widely covered the initiative, with national TV and radio praising it as "a unique and human way to cross the Channel." British media, by contrast, have so far remained quiet, despite this being a UK-born innovation, designed to reconnect British travellers with the closest part of continental Europe and in the most natural and authentic way.

Crossing the Channel as it should be

SailLink isn't just an alternative to classic transport, it's a shift in mindset towards the naturally obvious combined with performance innovation. For Andrew Simons, its founder and skipper, it's about providing public transport as it could be, with departure and arrival directly in the town-centre marinas, quick and stress-free boarding, and an experience you simply can't get on any other travel option. It's aimed at eco-conscious and experience-seeking travellers such as cycle tourers as well as hikers, week-enders and have-a-go sailors. Between Dover and Boulogne-sur-Mer the Channel is only 24 miles wide and with SailLink that short journey becomes a valued part of the time away. This their first season is the make-or-break before they can look to better vessels and other routes.

Bookings and full details available at: www.saillink.co.uk

Press Contact

Joris Gufroy

joris@saillink.co.uk



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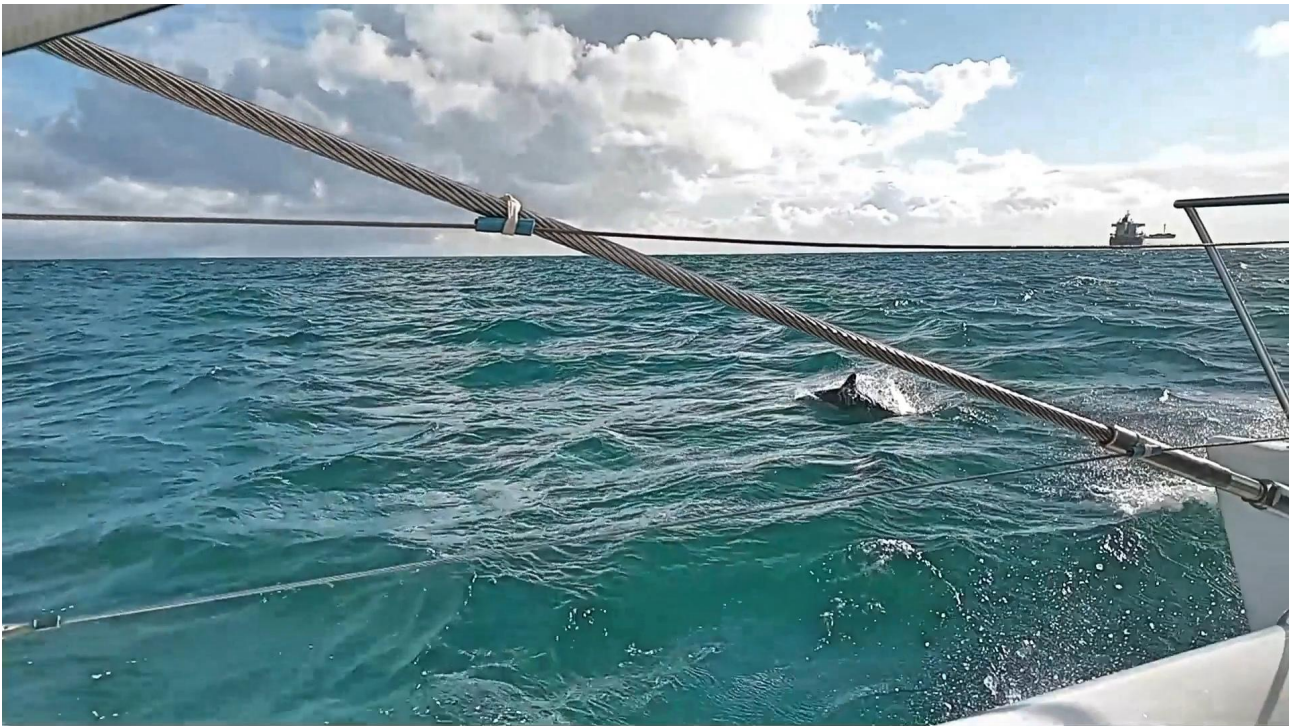
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